

## CLAIMS

[c1] 1. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined first time period;

if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined first time period, causing the communication device to enter a control-hold mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel;

determining whether the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for a predetermined second time period; and

if it is determined that the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, causing the communication device to enter a dormant mode, wherein the communication device releases its dedicated traffic channel.

[c2] 2. The method of claim 1, wherein if it is determined that the communication device has not been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, further including:

causing the communication device to return to an active mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel, if the communication device receives media or the communication device requests a group call.

[c3] 3. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period;

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to cache a state of its service configuration before entering the dormant mode.

[c4] 4. The method of claim 3, wherein said causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode includes causing the communication device to release its dedicated traffic channel.

[c5]

5. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined first time period;

if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined first time period, causing the communication device to enter a control-hold mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel;

determining whether the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for a predetermined second time period; and

if it is determined that the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, causing the communication device to enter a dormant mode, wherein the communication device releases its dedicated traffic channel.

[c6]

6. The computer-readable medium of claim 5, wherein if it is determined that the communication device has not been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, the method further including:

causing the communication device to return to an active mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel, if the communication device receives media or the communication device requests a group call.

[c7]

7. In a communication device operating in a group communication network, a computer-readable medium embodying a method for putting the communication device into a dormant mode, the method comprising:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period;

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to cache a state of its service configuration before entering the dormant mode.

[c8] 8. The computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein said causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode includes causing the communication device to release its dedicated traffic channel.

[c9] 9. A communication device operating in a group communication network, comprising:

means for determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined first time period;

means for, if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined first time period, causing the communication device to enter a control-hold mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel;

means for determining whether the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for a predetermined second time period; and

means for, if it is determined that the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, causing the communication device to enter a dormant mode, wherein the communication device releases its dedicated traffic channel.

[c10] 10. The communication device of claim 9, wherein if it is determined that the communication device has not been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, further including:

means for causing the communication device to return to the active mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel, if the communication device receives media or the communication device requests a group call.

[c11] 11. A communication device operating in a group communication network, comprising:

means for determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period;

means for causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period; and

means for causing the communication device to cache a state of its service configuration before entering the dormant mode.

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[c12] 12. The communication device of claim 11, wherein said means for causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode includes means for causing the communication device to release its dedicated traffic channel.

[c13] 13. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:  
a receiver to receive information over the network;  
a transmitter to transmit information over the network; and  
a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined first time period;

if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined first time period, causing the communication device to enter a control-hold mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel;

determining whether the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for a predetermined second time period; and

if it is determined that the communication device has been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, causing the communication device to enter a dormant mode, wherein the communication device releases its dedicated traffic channel.

[c14] 14. The communication device of claim 13, wherein if it is determined that the communication device has not been in the control-hold mode for the predetermined second time period, the processor further being capable of:

causing the communication device to return to an active mode, wherein the communication device maintains its dedicated traffic channel, if the communication device receives media or the communication device requests a group call.

[c15] 15. A communication device for providing a dormant mode, comprising:  
a receiver;  
a transmitter; and  
a processor communicatively coupled to the receiver and the transmitter, the processor being capable of:

determining whether the communication device has been inactive for a predetermined time period;

causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode if it is determined that the communication device has been inactive for the predetermined time period; and

causing the communication device to cache a state of its service configuration before entering the dormant mode.

- [c16] 16. The communication device of claim 15, wherein said causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode includes causing the communication device to release its dedicated traffic channel.

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